(f) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The first meeting of the Joint Committee reconstituted pursuant to the elections in the different units was held in March, 1978. At the time of reconstitution it was jointly agreed that the tenure of the committee would be two years.

(c) Due to lack of consensus in the labour side regarding made of determining the representation, it has not been possible to reconstitute the Committee.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The company has been advised that the Joint Committee has been functioning on a voluntary basis and a solution to the problem of representation may be found by the management through consultation with the parties.

Posting of husband and wife at the same Station

3342. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the guidelines for the posting of husband and wife at the same station issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions are being followed in practice by both the Departments of Posts and Telecommunications;

(b) if so, whether any percentage of vacancies has been earmarked for observance of these guidelines;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether application from the persons covered under this policy for posting at the same stations are invited before making promotions|transfers *inter-alia* from persons promoted to Junior|Senior scales of Posts and Telegraph Accounts and Finance service group 'A'; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir, as far as it is administratively practicable.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Earmarking of vacancies for such categories of officials is not possible as the demands for various stations cannot be foreseen. However, all such requests are considered keeping in view the individual as well as public interest.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Applications are not invited as there is no percentage of vacancies reserved for such cases.

Telegrams Delivered by Post

3343. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the percentage of telegrams delivered by post in urban and rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): The percentage of telegrams delivered by post during 1987-88 for the entire country is 0.6. The percentage figures for urban and rural areas are not maintained separately.

Booking Orders for power equipment by BHEL

3344. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of booking orders by BHEL as far as power equipment is concerned; and

(b) whether it is a fact that it is starved of orders?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) BHEL has got orders totalling to 10,600 MW for Thermal and Hydro Power equipment.

(b) The major portion of the above orders will be executed during 1988-89 and 1989-90. Steps have been taken to